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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/761,344	01/22/2004	Yasunori Mizoguchi	X2007.0149	3271

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EXAMINER	
NGUYEN, JIMMY	
ART UNIT	**PAPER NUMBER**
2829	

DATE MAILED: 11/01/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/761,344	MIZOGUCHI ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Jimmy Nguyen	2829	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *22 January 2004*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1 -13* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1 -13* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *22 January 2004* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☒ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date *0104*.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1 – 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(B) as being anticipated by Nucci (US 5,889,407).

As to claim 1, Nucci discloses (figs 16 ,17) an electrical inspection apparatus that performs an electrical inspection using an inspection probe that is brought into contact with at least one surface of a printed board, said electrical inspection apparatus comprising:

a reference position regulating member (201, 202) that is brought into contact with a first surface (upper surface) of the printed board (200), whereby the printed board (200) is fixed at a reference position (on the carrier 121) that is determined in advance in a normal direction, and

a pressing member (202)) that is brought into contact with a second surface (lower surface) of the printed board (200) opposite to the first surface (lower surface), so that the printed board (200) is held between the reference position regulating member (201) and the pressing member (202),

wherein the inspection probe (30, 30') is brought into contact with a prescribed portion (contact points) of the printed board (200), which differs from a first area in

which the reference position regulating member is brought into contact with the printed board and a second area in which the pressing member is brought into contact with the printed board (200) .

As to claim 2, Nucci discloses (figs 16 ,17) the electrical inspection apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the pressing member (201, 202) defines the reference position when it comes in contact with the printed board (200) that is regulated in position upon contact with the reference position regulating member.

As to claim 3, Nucci discloses (fig 18) the electrical inspection apparatus according to claim 1, wherein at least one absorbing member (21) is arranged for either the reference position regulating member or the pressing member.

As to claim 4, Nucci discloses (figs 16 - 18) the electrical inspection apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the pressing member (201, 202) defines the reference position when it comes in contact with the printed board (200) that is regulated in position upon contact with the reference position regulating member.

As to claim 5, Nucci discloses (figs 16 - 18) the electrical inspection apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the inspection probe (30, 30') is arranged in a direction accompanied with either the reference position regulating member (201) or the pressing member (202) with respect to the printed board (200).

As to claim 6, Nucci discloses (figs 16 - 18) the electrical inspection apparatus according to claim 5, wherein the pressing member (202) defines the reference position when it comes in contact with the printed board (200) that is regulated in position upon contact with the reference position regulating member.

As to claim 7, Nucci discloses (figs 16 - 18) the electrical inspection apparatus according to claim 1, wherein a plurality of inspection probes (30, 30') are arranged relative to both of the reference position regulating member (201) and the pressing member (202) with respect to the printed board (200).

As to claim 8, Nucci discloses (figs 16 - 18) the electrical inspection apparatus according to claim 7, wherein the pressing member (202) defines the reference position when it comes in contact with the printed board (200) that is regulated in position upon contact with the reference position regulating member.

As to claim 9, Nucci discloses (figs 16 - 18) the electrical inspection apparatus according to claim 1, wherein under a condition where the reference position regulating member (201) is placed in contact with the first surface (upper surface) of the printed board (200), the inspection probe (30) is brought into contact with the second surface (lower surface) of the printed board (200) at a position that differs from a position at which the pressing member presses (202) the second surface (lower surface) of the

printed board (200) within an area in which the pressing member is located opposite to the reference position regulating member with respect to the printed board, thus performing the electrical inspection.

As to claim 10, Nucci discloses (figs 16 - 18) the electrical inspection apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the reference position regulating member (201) has a through hole (the open space that retain the adapter 50), so that under a condition where the pressing member (202) presses the second surface (lower surface) of the printed board (200), the inspection probe (30) is brought into contact with the first surface (upper surface) of the printed board (200) via the through hole (the open space that retain the adapter 50), thus performing the electrical inspection.

As to claim 11, Nucci discloses (figs 16 - 18) the electrical inspection apparatus according to claim 1, wherein at least one of the reference position regulating member (201) and the pressing member (202) has a through hole (the open space that retain the adapter 50),, which allows the inspection probe (30) to penetrate therethrough and to come in contact with the printed board (200).

As to claim 12, Nucci discloses (figs 16 - 18) The electrical inspection apparatus according to claim 1, wherein at least one of the reference position regulating member (201) and the pressing member (202) has a cutout portion (portion that receive adapter 31), which allows the inspection probe to project therethrough and to come in

contact with the printed board (200).

As to claim 13, Nucci discloses (figs 16 - 18) the electrical inspection apparatus according to claim 1 further comprising least one of an upper-side detector equipped with an inspection probe (30) and a lower-side detector equipped with an inspection probe (30),

at wherein said upper-side detector comprises a lower surface that functions as the pressing member (202), and a hole having an opening (portion that receive adapter 31) on the lower surface in which the inspection probe (30) is installed to be retracted from the opening of the lower surface,

and wherein said lower-side detector comprises an upper surface that functions as the reference position regulating member (201), and a hole having an opening on (portion that receive adapter 50) the upper surface in which the inspection probe is installed to be retracted from the opening of the upper surface.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jimmy Nguyen whose telephone number is 571-272-1965. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F from 9 to 5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ramtez Nestor, can be reached on 571 –272 -2034. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Jimmy Nguyen

10/27/05

VINH NGUYEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER
A.U. 2829
10/28/05